

## Media Alert

January 4, 2011

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# 2,500 Volunteers Needed to Plant 25,000 Trees In Celebration of Arbor Day 2011!

### *HPARD To Plant 1st Tree at Hermann Square As A Call for Volunteers*

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department will plant the first of 25,000 trees scheduled to be planted for Arbor Day on January 7, 2011 at 10:30 am in Hermann Square Park (NE corner of McKinney and Smith). Officials will extend an invitation to Houstonians to volunteer to plant the remaining 24,999 trees during Houston's 25th Annual Arbor Day Celebration. The eight-inch Live Oak Tree was donated by Trees for Houston, and will be planted as a replacement for a 50-year-old Live Oak that was felled during Hurricane Ike.

- Who:** Joe Turner, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department  
Barry Ward, Executive Director, Trees for Houston  
Environmental Design Associates
- What:** To Plant a 8" Live Oak Tree value at \$6,000 from Hempstead
- When:** January 7, 2011 - 10:30 am
- Where:** Hermann Square - Corner of McKinney and Smith
- Why:** To encourage Houstonians to volunteer to plant trees during Houston's 25th Annual Arbor Day Celebration. 2,500 volunteers are needed to plant 25,000 trees on the Wallisville Road Esplanades and the 610 and I-10 interchange during Houston's 25th Annual Arbor Day Celebration scheduled for January 22, 2011. The Arbor Day tree planting event is open to individuals, families, groups and businesses (children can participate if they are accompanied by a guardian.) Pre-registration for this event is required and we plant rain or shine. Online registration for individuals is available at [www.houstonparks.org](http://www.houstonparks.org). Groups of 10 or more should contact Oneika McCarthy for registration information at [oneika.mccarthy@houstontx.gov](mailto:oneika.mccarthy@houstontx.gov) or (832) 395-7030.

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages over 38,992 acres of parkland and greenspace for the City of Houston and develops and implements recreational programming for citizens of all abilities. For more information on the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (832) 395-7022 or visit [www.houstonparks.org](http://www.houstonparks.org).